

**JEFFERSON COUNTY HIGHWAY COMMITTEE
MEETING MINUTES**

Tuesday, January 28, 2020

The Jefferson County Highway Committee met on Tuesday, January 28, 2020, at 8:30 A.M. for a meeting at the Highway Office.

ROLL OF THE HIGHWAY COMMITTEE:

Members present: Walt Christensen; John Kannard; Dick Schultz; Michael Wineke; Lloyd Zastrow

Members absent: None

Also Present: William Kern, Highway Commissioner
Ben Wehmeier, County Administrator
Jim Schroeder, County Board Chair
Ann Jenswold, Highway Department
Doug Buth, Payne & Dolan
Frankie Fuller, Fort Atkinson

Purpose of the meeting was to review and approve vouchers and other highway business.

HIGHWAY COMMITTEE MINUTES: The minutes from the December 31, 2019 Highway meeting, having been distributed in advance, it was moved by Mr. Schultz and seconded by Mr. Zastrow to approve the minutes as printed.

Carried by the following roll call:

AYES: Christensen, Kannard, Schultz, Wineke, Zastrow

NOES: None

ABSENT: None

ABSTAIN: None

CORRESPONDENCE:

Newsletters/E-Mails:

- None

News Releases/Notices:

- None

PUBLIC COMMENT:

- None

HIGHWAY COMMISSIONER'S REPORT:

- **Winter Maintenance**

Crews have completed snow removal for several large snow events and icing events in January

Crews have produced over 900,000 gallons of salt brine this winter

- **Construction Projects**

- **Miscellaneous Projects**

- **General Maintenance**

Crews are working on miscellaneous brushing and tree removal on state and county highways

Crews are completing pavement patching and repairs between winter storms

- **Office/Shop Work**

Office staff is closing out all 2019 accounts and will begin processing the 2019 end-of-year summaries

Physical inventories are completed for 2019 end-of-year

OLD BUSINESS

NONE

NEW BUSINESS

9a. Discuss roadside vegetation management/maintenance

Mr. Christensen discussed improving roadside maintenance to improve habitats and control invasive species. Commissioner Kern relayed information regarding WisDOT policies and guidelines for mowing. He stated that the State allows for an initial mowing in July, and then later for safety reasons and sight distance issues only. Kern discussed spraying for invasive species. He stated that on county roads the department is mowing farther out into the right-of-way, as well as spraying for invasive species. He stated that the STH 26 corridor in Jefferson County is a pilot county for pollinators. There was discussion regarding having volunteer groups to aid in the identification and elimination of invasive species. Frankie Fuller was called upon to address the committee with her knowledge. Administrator Wehmeier addressed the concern of policy and safety when it comes to having volunteers working within the right-of-way area. There will be further discussion and considerations in the future.

9b. Discuss ATV/UTV use on county highways

Commissioner Kern reviewed previous information discussed at both Highway Committee and Traffic Safety Committee meetings regarding the use of ATV/UTV traffic on county highways. He showed a Wisconsin map showing designated trails around the state. He stated that most of the trails are in the northern part of the state, but some counties have intermittent trails. He talked about Jefferson County and the growing interest for trails in our area, and how the Towns have been working with ATV/UTV groups. The Committee discussed pros and cons of having trails in Jefferson County, with the biggest concern being safety. Jefferson County has more vehicle volume than northern counties, and traffic speeds are faster on county roads versus rural roads.

It was moved by Mr. Schultz and seconded by Mr. Kannard to postpone this discussion until a later time.

Carried by the following roll call:

- AYES: Christensen, Kannard, Schultz, Wineke, Zastrow
- NOES: None
- ABSENT: None
- ABSTAIN: None

9c. Discuss monthly financial account summary (YTD)

Commissioner Kern reviewed the financial account summary with the Committee, and answered questions. No Motion

REVIEW & APPROVE VOUCHERS: The vouchers held the following totals resulting:

BILLS:	01/06/20 FOR 2019	\$ 17,112.68
BILLS:	01/13/20 FOR 2019	\$ 124,958.45
BILLS:	01/13/20 FOR 2020	\$ 570.45
BILLS:	01/20/20 FOR 2019	\$ 693.42
BILLS:	01/20/20 FOR 2020	\$ 5,638.50
BILLS:	01/27/20 FOR 2020	\$ 19,726.91
COMMITTEE:	DEC	\$ 645.80
P-CARD:	JAN-BILL	\$ 99.00
P-CARD:	JAN-GENERAL	\$ 5,717.21
TOTALS:		\$ 175,162.42

It was moved by Mr. Schultz and seconded by Mr. Wineke that the bills are allowed as reviewed.

Carried by the following roll call:

- AYES: Christensen, Kannard, Schultz, Wineke
- NOES: None
- ABSENT: Zastrow
- ABSTAIN: None

Mr. Zastrow left at 9:40 a.m. for a Zoning meeting.

Motion to adjourn, by Mr. Kannard and seconded by Mr. Schultz at 9:55 a.m.

Carried by the following roll call:

- AYES: Christensen, Kannard, Schultz, Wineke
- NOES: None
- ABSENT: Zastrow
- ABSTAIN: None

The next meeting will be held on **Tuesday, February 25, 2020, at 8:30 a.m.**, at the Jefferson County Highway Department.

Approval: _____
